



AGERATUM PLANT NAMED 'AGETIS'

Latin name of the genus and species of the plant claimed

Ageratum houstonianum

5

Variety denomination

'AGETIS'

Background of the new plant

10

The present invention comprises a new distinct cultivar of *Ageratum*, botanically known as *Ageratum houstonianum*. The new cultivar is propagated from cuttings resulting from the cross of 'Q343-2' and 'S570-2'. 'Q343-2' is a purple flowering *Ageratum* having a compact habit. 'Q343-2' is not commercially available and is not known by any synonyms.

15 'S570-2' is a blue and white flowering *Ageratum* having an upright habit. 'S570-2' is a selection from the variety 'Southern Cross'.

20

Neither 'Q34³~~2~~-2' or 'S570-2' has been patented. As a result of this cross the present cultivar was created in 1997 in Enkhuizen, Netherlands and has been repeatedly asexually reproduced by cuttings in Enkhuizen, Netherlands, in Gilroy, USA, in Angers, France and in Sarrians, France over a three-year period. The distinctive characteristics of this new *Ageratum* are stable and reproduced true to type in successive generations of asexual reproduction. It takes 9 to 11 weeks to produce a finished plant, depending on the temperature.

25

This new *Ageratum* plant is an annual in most climatical zones in the US, only in zones 9 and 10 is it a perennial plant.

30

Description of the drawing

This new Ageratum plant is illustrated by the accompanying photographic drawing which shows blooms, buds and foliage of the plant in full color, the color shown being as true as
 5 can be reasonably obtained by conventional photographic procedures.

Description of the new cultivar

10 The following detailed descriptions set forth the distinctive characteristics of this new Ageratum. The data which defines these characteristics were collected from asexual reproductions carried out in Enkhuizen, Netherlands. The plant history was taken on 20 weeks old plants, blossomed under natural light and artificial light in a greenhouse. Color readings were taken in the greenhouse under ambient light. Color references are primarily
 15 to the RHS Color Chart of the Royal Horticultural Society of London.

Table 1

Differences between the new variety 'Agetis', its parents and a similar cultivar

Character	'Agetis'	'Q343-2'	'S570-2'	'R116'
Flower color	Violet	Purple	Blue and white	Violet
Size of capitulum	16-21 mm	6-9 mm	16-21 mm	7-9 mm
Plant height	30-40 cm	20-25 cm	25-35 cm	20-25 cm
Branching	At every internode	At every internode	Not at every internode	At every internode

The Plant

	Classification - Botanical	: <i>Ageratum houstonianum</i>
	Parentage - Female parent	: A seedling named 'Q343-2' is one of our seedlings from our Q-generation of plants bred in 1987
5	- Pollen parent	: A seedling named 'S570-2' is one of our seedlings from our S-generation of plants bred in 1997
	Growth habit	: Erect, well branched
	Plant height	: 30-40 cm
	Spreading area of plant	: 30-40 cm
10	Growth rate	: Vigorous
	Strength	: Very good
	Branching character	: Freely branching and lateral branching at every node
	Blooming period	: Year round

15

The stem

	Diameter	: 2-2.5 mm
	Shape	: Round
	Color	: 145 B
20	Anthocyan pigmentation	: Absent
	Length of the stem	: 5-15 cm
	Pubescence	: Slightly pubescent

The Foliage

25	Phyllotaxis	: Opposite, decussate
	Shape of blade:	: Ovate
	Texture - Upper side	: Slightly pubescent

- Lower side : Slightly pubescent
- Venation : Reticulate
- Leaf margin : Crenate
- Leaf base : Cordate
- 5 Leaf apex : Rounded
- Length : 27-63 mm
- Width : 30-68 mm
- Color - Upper side : Dark green 137A
- Lower side : Medium green 143A
- 10 Pubescence : Some pubescence is present
- Length of petiole : 11-15 mm
- Color of petiole : Light green 145C
- Petiole surface texture : Slightly pubescent
- 15 **Inflorescence**
- Inflorescence : Compound umbel of capitula
- Length of peduncle : 18-35 mm
- Diameter of peduncle : 2 – 3 mm
- Color of peduncle exposed to light : RHS 152B
- 20 Color of peduncle not exposed to light: RHS 145A
- Length of pedicel : 4-11 mm
- Diameter of pedicel : 1 – 2 mm
- Color of pedicel : RHS 145A
- Number of inflorescence per plant : 5 – 9 when ready for sale
- 25 Diameter of umbel : 4 – 6 cm
- Depth of umbel : 2 – 5 cm
- Number of capitula per inflorescence: 10-19

- Number of corolla per capitulum : 80-120
- Shape of corolla : actinomorph
- Number of lobes : 5
- Length of corolla : 4 – 5 mm
- 5 Diameter of corolla : 1 – 2 mm
- Color of corolla upper side : RHS 083D
- Color of corolla lower side : RHS 157D
- Number of phyllaries per capitulum : 23-25
- Length of phyllary : 4-5 mm
- 10 Diameter of phyllary : 1-2 mm
- Color of upper side of phyllary : RHS 143A
- Color of lower side of phyllary : RHS 143B
- Diameter of capitulum at beginning
of flowering : 7-8 mm
- 15 Depth of capitulum : 6-8 mm
- Color of capitulum at beginning
of flowering : RHS 083D
- Diameter of capitulum at full
flowering : 16-21 mm
- 20 Color of capitulum at full flowering : RHS 086D
- Reproductive organs
- Pollen : no pollen is produced
- Length of stigma and style : 8-9 mm
- Color of stigma : RHS 091A
- 25 Fragrance : No fragrance
- Lastingness of the bloom : The capitula of one umbel open over a period of
5 to 6 weeks

Seeds

Seedset : No seedset has been observed

Roots

- 5 Type of roots : Fibrous. Roots start to grow on every part of the stem that contacts the soil, so not only at the nodes.

Physiological and ecological characteristics:

- 10 Good tolerance to heat and cold, but no frost tolerance. Strong resistance to pests and diseases.